

Pest Prevention Division

The goal of the two programs in this division, Pest Exclusion and Pest Detection, are to stop the introduction of unwanted insect and plant pests and to continuously monitor areas of the county to find pests that may have slipped through.



The Pest Exclusion Program is considered the first line of defense in fighting against dangerous insect and plant pest invaders. The best way to manage these pests is to deny them access by inspecting shipments arriving at UPS, FedEx and US Post Office terminals.

Despite our best efforts, pests can still slip through on undeclared goods or by smuggling. Our Canine Program “sniffs” out unmarked packages containing fruit and plant materials.



In addition, thousands of insect traps are placed in the valley areas of the County considered most at risk. Frequent inspection of these traps allows us to find unwanted insect pests before

they have a chance to get established and become a threat to the agricultural industry and your backyard fruit!

We perform a variety of services and are always happy to help. For your convenience, we can be contacted by e-mail at awm@awm.sbcounty.gov or call any of our offices.

OFFICE LOCATIONS

San Bernardino (Main Office)

777 E. Rialto Ave.
San Bernardino, CA, 92415-0720

800-734-9459
909-387-2105
FAX 909-387-2449

Ontario (Field Office)

1640 S. Grove Ave.
Ontario, CA 91764

909-673-0435
FAX 909-930-2571

Hesperia (Field Office)

15900 Smoketree St.
Hesperia, CA 92345

760-995-8252
FAX 760-244-7327

Barstow (Field Office)

(by appointment only—call Hesperia)

301 E. Mt. View Ave.
Barstow, CA 92311

760-256-4861
(FAX is same number)



AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES

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The Department of Agriculture / Weights & Measures provides services to protect the agricultural industry, businesses and consumers in the County.

History

In 1881, San Bernardino County became one of the first counties in California to create a Horticultural Commission, which later became the Department of Agriculture.



Packaged items are checked to make sure they contain the correct quantity. This includes items packed by weight, volume or count. Inspections are made at both retail store locations and manufacturing plants.



The Department of Weights and Measures originated in 1915 and established regular testing of commercial scales and measuring devices. The Departments combined in 1993 and today we are better able to serve the growing needs of the residents in the County.

The Department is currently divided into three divisions that provide a variety of services and inspections:

Consumer Protection, Pest Prevention and Environmental Protection & Support

Consumer Protection Division

Weights & Measures inspections protect buyers and sellers by ensuring that commercial weighing and measuring devices are accurate and prices for items are correctly charged. Many different types of devices are inspected, including scales, gasoline pumps, taximeters, and gas / electric / water utility sub-meters. Our seal on these devices shows that they were accurate when tested.



All Computerized Pricing Systems (including those that use a “scanner”) are inspected for accuracy by comparing the posted or advertised price to what is actually charged at the register.

Other activities include inspecting gas station labeling and price signs, performing undercover test sales at scrap metal recyclers, verifying that ambulance odometers are accurate and making sure that Propane companies are providing you with the correct amount of gas.



This division also inspects fruit, vegetables and eggs for quality standards. The inspections are conducted at local produce outlets, egg packing companies and Certified Farmer’s Markets.

Environmental Protection & Support Division

This division is comprised of two main programs: Pesticide Use Enforcement and Invasive Weed Eradication. In addition, the division is also responsible for regulating commercial bee hives or Apiaries, in County areas.



The Pesticide Use Enforcement program protects pest control company employees, agricultural field workers, landscape gardeners, the public and the environment from improper pesticide use.

Pesticides can be very harmful when used improperly and our department is diligent in requiring all pesticide users, both around houses and in croplands, to follow strict safety requirements and restrictions in order to minimize exposure. Pesticide illnesses and complaints are investigated quickly.



The Apiary Program handles complaints regarding beekeepers operating on County land. Beekeepers are required to have permission to use the property where they place their colonies of bees and must always provide an adequate water source for the bees.